

## FARM AND GARDEN.

### MILLIONS ARE WASTED.

Yet the Country Is Too Poor to Inaugurate Road Reforms.

"Hard times and the people can't afford it." This is the sober, serious verdict given by nine-tenths of our legislators when a proposition is made to spend a few dollars of public money for the improvement of its ways. A legislator is not always a statesman. Neither he nor his complaining constituency is likely to realize how large an aggregate is made up by a little "chipping in" all around. Uncle Sam has been making a few figures that may enlighten us on this subject, and the report of Commissioner Miller of the internal revenue department shows that we spend a heap more money outside the scope of necessary purchases than we are likely to realize. For example, as a nation we drank 6,000,000,000 glasses of whiskey last year, for which we paid the barkeeper about \$600,000,000, or \$50,000,000 more than all the appropriations of congress for government expenses. Besides this, we drank last year nearly 32,000,000 barrels of beer, or, to be a little more exact, 12,785,169,200 glasses, which represents an expenditure for this species of



CAUGHT IN THE MUD.

[An everyday experience anywhere in the United States.]

Teutonic hilarity of over \$617,000,000, which means an average of \$10 for each man, woman and child in the whole population. Then we spent last year nearly \$254,000,000 for cigars and cheroots, and over \$22,000,000 for cigarettes. Of chewing and smoking tobacco we consumed about 280,000,000 pounds, for which we paid \$139,633,036. Commenting on these figures, the Atlanta Constitution says:

"Altogether, not taking stock of the money we expend for champagne, whose sparkling bubbles burst about the brimming goblet, and the other imported and native wines which drive away carling care, the people of the United States spend annually for drink and tobacco the almost incomprehensible sum of \$1,641,993,460. The mind is incapable of grasping the largeness of the total, but when it is remembered that this is more than the circulating medium of the United States, that is, \$27 per head more than the per capita circulation; that it proves that the head of every family, supposing he handles the purse strings, pays out \$195 annually for drink and tobacco, and that every dollar in the United States goes each year over the bar or the counter of some tobaccoist, some idea of its magnitude can be obtained."

It is, of course, possible that there exists some subtle and undiscovered reason why the people should not take on some slight spirit of thrift and go about the improvement of the vilest roads and streets that ever cursed an intelligent republic, but whatever that reason may be, it certainly has no foundation in the oft-repeated complaint "hard times and the people can't afford it."

### RELIABLE TESTIMONY.

Wide Tires Improve Public Roads and Save the Horses.

A correspondent for the *Brooklyn Gazette* gives his observation and experience in regard to wide tires as follows:

I wish to give my observation and experience. I have a lot of teams to look after, and we have on the farm but two narrow-tired wagons. In the spring of 1891, when hauling manure, the wagon with three-inch tires and the one with one and one-half inch both went to the field together, the loads being equal. When in the field the broad-tired drove in and unloaded; the narrow stuck. Four horses were put to it to get it to a place to unload. The condition of the field was the same; broad tires on top of the ground, narrow tires in ground about eight inches.

In addition to Winwood farm, Mr. Summan also owns the largest sawmill plant in southeastern Indiana, and now his foreman there uses wide tires on all wagons, none being less than four and one-half inches. The common dirt roads (clay) have no stone on them in this country, and roads that are used by common farmers are cut to pieces—all rut and mud—while the roads used by the log wagons are solid and fit to drive over at all times.

In the spring of 1892, we had a couple of mule teams to help plow a wet piece of ground. I was in the field when they struck it; the mules—which weighed near to nine hundred and fifty pounds each—mired to their knees and were unhitched to get them out. Then I ordered one of our heavy draft teams to try to plow where mules could not, and they completed the job in a good manner. They weighed 1,700 and 1,840 each. From my observation and actual experience, having under my charge more horses and wagons than three or four farmers in this section of Indiana, I am led to believe that the wide tire is the road maker and the narrow tire the road breaker and horse killer. Where I cannot go with a wagon with tires four and one-half inches wide and a team of Clydes weighing from 1,500 to 1,800 pounds each, no man with narrow tires dare go with the same load, no difference what his team may be. Give us wide tires and compel farmers to use them and we will have better roads than we ever had and save our horses also.

## FOOD FOR THE DAIRY.

Why Farmers Cannot Afford to Feed Hay to Cows.

Most of the hay substitutes are substitutes in furnishing the required bulk rather than in furnishing an equivalent in nutrition, and the practical question is how to use them in order to obtain increased dairy products. The best feed is the one which accomplishes most economically the object in view, and the best use of a feed for dairy purposes is that which meets the need of the animal. Coarse fodder, hay and hay substitutes are deficient in the nutrients best calculated to produce a large milk flow. To insure this, these fodders must be combined with feeds richer in protein and fat to make a well-balanced ration. There is such an abundance of cornstalks and stover produced on most of our farms that there is no necessity for our giving much attention to the less valuable coarse products till these are better utilized.

Of the crops ordinarily grown, the corn plant will doubtless furnish the larger part of the hay substitutes. It would be of advantage if our farmers got more into the way of growing other crops for winter feeding. The legumes (clover, peas, etc.) deserve to take a more important place in dairy foods. Not one of sixteen rations examined contained clover hay or hay or ensilage of the legumes. Some of the reasons why some of the legumes are especially valuable may be concisely stated as follows:

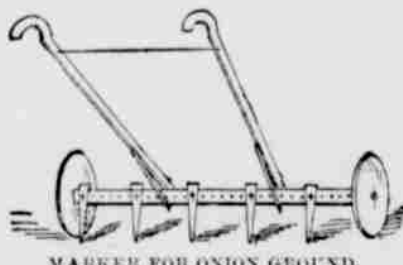
Their large percentages of protein compounds—which serve to form blood, muscle, bone and milk—and their consequent feeding value, which exceeds that of the grasses, corn fodder, corn stover, or straws. They may be used to supplement these fodders in place of the concentrated nitrogenous feeds, such as bran, cottonseed, linseed and gluten meals, etc. Hay from the legumes is twice or more than twice as rich in protein as that from grasses.

Their power of gathering large quantities of plant food from natural sources. Many, if not all of our common legumes acquire considerable quantities of nitrogen from the air. Their roots penetrate deeply into the subsoil, and they thus obtain plant food from depths beyond the reach of plants with smaller root development. Their manurial value. When the crop is fed, most of the nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash and other fertilizing ingredients go into excrement, liquid and solid, and if preserved make a rich manure. The large amounts of plant food left behind in roots and stubble after removal of the crop furnish a cheap and valuable store of plant food for following crops.—Farm and Home.

### USEFUL IMPLEMENT.

How to Construct a Good Marker for Onion Ground.

The home garden is supposed to be in a high state of cultivation. The regular annual allowance of manure will in all probability be fully sufficient even for this crop, which is known to thrive best on plenty and rich food. If you have the manure, however, a light dressing on the plowed ground will be sure to give good results. Deep plowing is not necessary, but the surface should be well fined and kept well stirred during the entire season of



MARKER FOR ONION GROUND.

growth. A small bed can be marked out with a garden line, or a rake or hoe handle. For larger operations we need a marker that will indicate the rows without leaving regular furrows such as we need for seed sowing. I have used various styles of markers, but have seen nothing that in my estimation will surpass the device here reproduced from *Practical Farmer*. The illustration explains itself. The teeth are twelve inches apart, and their points run just far enough below the surface of the wheel to leave light marks. The onion plants are then "dibbled" in, three inches apart in the row. At this rate it will take about one thousand plants to set a square rod of ground.

### FRESH DAIRY NOTES.

If your dairy has no pedigree, start one at once.

ALL straw and no hay will turn a bright heifer into a dull cow.

A good way to choke a valuable cow is to feed her uncut vegetables.

A DIRTY strainer reflects as badly on the milk as on her who washes it.

Too much carbonaceous food in the dairy will make fat beef faster than butter fat.

A COW that begins to lose flesh before the winter is gone will be "spring poor" by the month of May.

DO NOT let the milk get cold before it is carried from the milking stable to the dairy house to be strained.

GIVE the animals plenty of room in the stable in which to lie down, if you would make them comfortable.

SAWDUST in the manure heap represents so much inert matter; land plaster is an absorbent that is also a fertilizer.

TO FEED economically, and yet sufficiently, give the cows only what they will eat up clean. Trying to stuff them beyond this limit will result in loss and not gain.

DO NOT feed the hay down to the bare boards in the mow over the stable; for if you do the ingress of cold air from this source will result in a veritable exposure to your dairy.

THINK twice before you go into the business of raising veal calves by letting them suckle their dams. The system will have a demoralizing effect on the dairy, offsetting the temporary gain.—American Agriculturist.

### A Boston Love Affair.

"Miss Winthrop-Winthrop," he said, gingerly, as if her name were an exquisite piece of china, "will you be my wife?" She drew back on the instant. "I hardly expected this, Mr. Common," she responded, "but since you have mentioned it so frankly permit me to say as frankly that I will not." "No?" he exclaimed, in astonishment. "No," she said; "your ancestors did not come over in the Mayflower, as mine did, and I cannot marry you." At this supreme moment he forgot all about the potent factor of wealth, and his mind dwelt on the possibility—nay, probability—that he, too, must have had ancestors some time in the past, and his bosom swelled with pride and resentment. "And do you know why they did not, Miss Winthrop-Winthrop?" he asked, in lofty tones. "Do you know why they did not? I'll tell you. They were not the kind of people who traveled with excursions." And he strode from the house in imperious disdain.—Boston Common.

### Imposed on Him.

Farmer Oatcake—If you will saw this wood I will give you a good breakfast.

Indolent Ivers—Can't saw straight. Farmer Oatcake—There was a tramp here this morning who got a nice, warm meal for sawing that pile out there.

Indolent Ivers—Sir, you're been imposed upon; he was no tramp!—Puck.

### Generosity.

Mr. Longear—By the way, did you ever know that large ears are a sign of generosity?

Miss Beauti—Of course, Mr. Longear. They are a sign that nature has been generous.—N. Y. Weekly.

### To Memory Dear.

She—Dearest, did you think of me often when I was away?

He—Well, I should say so. Four big bills came in the first week.—Answers.

### A Definition.

"Pa, what is a perquisite?" "An authorized steal, my son."—Puck.

### The Proof of It.

A woman of exquisite taste is she, And here is a proof, as you'll agree; Her husband made his money in milk, And she dresses mostly in watered silk. —N. Y. Press.

### BEFORE AND AFTER.



Mrs. Murray Hill—Before marriage you men are like angels; after marriage you are like demons.

Mr. Murray Hill—That's easily explained. Before we are married we imagine we are in paradise; after we are married we know we are in the other place.—Texas Sittings.

### Contributing to a Good Cause.

Tramp—Sir, a single moment. Genial Man—Well, my good man? Tramp—I will be frank with you. I am tired of life and have determined to drink myself to death. I have exhausted my means and I implore you to furnish the funds to complete my destruction.

Genial Man (after a careful survey)—My good man, I regret to say that I have not \$10,000 to spare.—Alex. E. Sweet, in Texas Sittings.

Drawbacks of Composition Writing. Little Dot—I just hate compositions. Mamma—You like to write letters? Little Dot—Yes; but when I get a blot on my composition, I can't draw a ring around it and say it's a kiss.—Good News.

A Possible Probability. "Why don't you wait awhile until your son has more sense and then get him married off?" "Because he wouldn't marry if he gets any more sense."—Hullo.

The Luckier Partner. Little Amy—Why do they call a wife the better half, pa?

Mr. Ennepek (savagely)—Because she gets the best of the bargain, I suppose.—Chicago Record.

Outlining His Career. Stokes—Pencil thinks he's the coming illustrator.

Maltby—I see; you mean he's drawing on his imagination.—Brooklyn Life.

Beauty. How fair she was, No one could tell, Because, forsooth, She painted well. —Detroit Free Press.

He Was Too Discreet. Rimple—Does your wife obey you, as she promised to do at the altar?

Simple—Well, the fact is, I've never dared to test her!—Brooklyn Life.

Sure Road to Fame. Solicitor—But you have so arranged your will as to invite litigation.

The Dying—Certainly. I don't propose to be forgotten.—Town Topics.

The Result of Fast Living. "Our gas meter is sick, Tom."

"What's the matter—gastric fever?"

"No; galloping consumption."—Hullo.

Some Men Are Hard on Hats. "I must get a new hat."

"You wore the other out talking through it, I suppose."—Town Topics.

Jealous. He—Why did she break it off? She—Her dog Fido got too fond of him.—Brooklyn Life.

### Hint for Those About to Marry.

A lady told a party of friends that she had quarreled with her husband, and had planted a tree in memory of this their first falling out.

"What a splendid idea!" whispered another lady in her husband's ear. "If we had adopted that plan, my dear, we might have had by now a fine avenue of trees in our garden."—Demorest's Magazine.

A Precocious Infant. Calino, as a friend of the family, is introduced to the baby, six months old, whose head is adorned with a few straggling locks of light hair.

"I wish you much joy," he said to the mother of the bantling. "Splendid child; very precocious, too; why he is nearly as bald as his father!"—Courier de l'Europe.

He Remembered. Public Library Official (tearing up card)—What chump let you have a book on that card? It expired a month ago!

Nearsighted Party—He was a sour-looking, light-complexioned young squirt with curly hair, and—why, it was you!—Chicago Tribune.

Boarding House Experience. The veal stew was dreadful tough, and the disgruntled boarder pushed his plate back and seowled.

"Anything the matter with the veal?" asked the landlady anxiously. "Great Scott! I should say so; the calf lived ten years too long, and died too soon."—Texas Sittings.

How They Fixed Him. When he ran for congress He did 'em what he'd do; Put a rope around her And pull the country through;

When he got in a congress— Struck the public life, Lost all hope, for with his rope They gently "roped" him in! —Atlanta Constitution.

His Ideal. Yabsley—You say you wouldn't marry any but a womanly woman, but what is your idea of a womanly woman?

Mudge—One who would think I was the smartest man on earth!—Indianapolis Journal.

Thrifty Device. "Hello, Kiljordan! Been buying a new overcoat?"

"No. Don't give it away, Shadbolt, but it's my old chinchilla. I paid a barber fifty cents to run his clippers over it."—Chicago Tribune.

A Lack of Coincidence. Downer—I am glad it is good form not to wear a watch with a dress suit.

Upper—Why? Downer—Because I never have my watch and dress suit at the same time.—Life.

Wanted a Piano. Wife—We must have a piano. Husband—We are neither of us musical.

Wife—I know; but what is home without a piano lamp?—N. Y. Weekly.

Where the Blows Began. Critics—I'd be ashamed to write such stuff as you write.

Authors—Of course you would. Everybody would say it was plagiarized.—Chicago Record.

Precocious Tommy. "Girls is queer things," wrote Tommy on "composition" day. "Why? Because a girl is not in it in society till she comes out."—Indianapolis Journal.

She Knew. He asked the miss what was a kiss, Grammatically defined. "It's a conjunction, sir," she said. "And hence can't be declined." —Indianapolis Journal.

UNNECESSARY ADVICE.



Man on the Bank—Help is coming; keep cool!—Judge.

Invaluable Assistance. Neighbor—Yez how a large family to support, Mr. Finnigan.

Mr. Finnigan—I hov thot, mum; an' if they didn't earn their own livin' I couldn't do it at all, at all.—Puck.

Everything and Nothing. When Chloe weeps and you, to get at what The matter is, with fond words coax and flatter And she sobs "nothing," sorry is your lot. Then you may know that everything's the matter.—Judge.

A Little Reptile. Teacher—Mention one of those reptiles that crawl on all fours on the ground.

Tommy—My little sister. Her name is Molly.—Texas Sittings.

Her Voice. Her voice is very sweet and clear, Melodious and low, And all she said I loved to hear, Until she told me "no." —Harper's Bazar.

Without Help. "My husband died last night without warning."

"Why didn't you call a doctor?"

"It was not necessary. He died anyway."—Hullo.

Easing His Conscience. Ted—How did he come out of his dilemma in regard to those two girls?

Ned—He decided to love the poor one and marry the rich one.—Judge.

In It. Paxy—I'm right in it. Pym—What?

Paxy—Debt!—N. Y. World.

Recuperating. First Actor—What are you doing now? Second Actor—Me friends.—Detroit Free Press.

## WOMAN AND HOME.

### EASTER OFFERINGS.

Two Articles Which Are Pretty as Well as Serviceable.

Should you send to the friend whom you wish to remember on Easter day some more practical expression of your friendship than an Easter card or booklet, it will be even more appreciated than one of these pretty souvenirs, which, however charming at the time, in a few years become mere reminders of space. Let your gift be

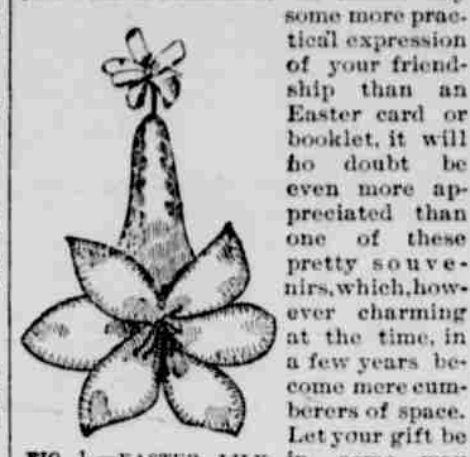


FIG. 1.—EASTER LILY in some way PEN-WIPER.

of Easter, and, whether it be so utilitarian an article as a whisk-broom holder, or a dainty receptacle for letters or photographs, it will be quite proper and doubtless will be most welcome. For a pen-wiper draw upon white butcher's linen or Gobelins cloth an Easter lily and couch all the edges with Japanese gold cord, after which work each petal with white floss in long and short stitch; work the stamens in outline stitch with a single French knot of yellow silk at the end of each. Cut out with a sharp pair of scissors and press carefully with a warm iron. Cut out several leaves from chamois skin of the same shape as the flower but just a trifle smaller; whip the edges with green silk, and stitch all together at the stem. Tie with a white satin ribbon at the stem end. (Fig. 1.) The same idea may be appropriated for a shaving case, using celluloid for the flower and a number of leaves of tissue paper for the inside backed by a lily cut from drawing paper. Tint the edges of the lily with liquid gilt, put in a stem of wire, and tie with a pretty bright ribbon. A letter case for keeping unanswered letters is a very useful, and may be made a very pretty, trifle. Linen in white, blue or ecru, or Gobelins cloth, which is a new linen material very much used in fancy work of all kinds are the best for this purpose. Cut two pieces, one nine inches by seven, the other for the pocket, seven by five. On the upper half embroider a spray of apple blossoms on the smaller piece, with gold thread, work the word "Letters," scattering a few petals and blossoms here and there. Line with old rose silk if the outside is blue, or white with an interlining of linen canvas to give the necessary body. Put the pieces together as seen in Fig. 2—punch holes around three sides of the lower end and lace together with gold or blue silk cord. Hang up with ribbon an inch wide.—American Agriculturist.

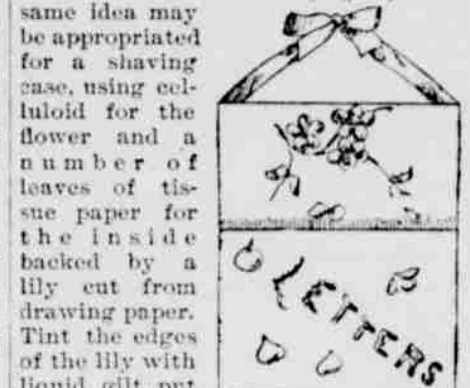


FIG. 2.—EASTER GREETING.

Next to neatly finished details," remarked the famous dressmaker, "there is nothing that distinguishes amateur work from professional more than the pressing. Most people only press their goods when they consider that certain portions or seams require it, whereas the tailor holds his goose as of as much importance as his shears or needle, and shapes his garments with a sponge and hot iron—quite as much with the former as the latter. This is particularly applicable to cloth garments." Anyone who is ambitious of having good work done in her house by her seamstress should have the proper appliances.

Squash Pie Without Eggs. Bake the squash in the shell, when done, remove with a spoon and mash through a colander. For one pie take eight tablespoonsful of the squash, half a cup of sugar and one and one-third cups of boiling milk. Pour the milk slowly over the squash, beating rapidly meanwhile, to make the mixture light. Bake in one crust. Squash is preferred by many people to pumpkin.

Recipe for White Pound Cakes. One cup of fine white sugar and half a cup of butter, beat to a cream and add the whites of two eggs, then beat ten minutes. One teaspoonful cream tartar, half a teaspoonful soda, half a cup sweet milk, one and one-half cups flour, one teaspoonful lemon extract. Beat all together fifteen minutes. Bake in quick oven.

It Has Its Drawbacks. It is sometimes recommended that one sprinkle one's carpets with salt water in order to freshen them and bring out the original coloring. This plan has its drawbacks. In damp weather the brine is sure to work out and cling to the surface of the floor covering in the most candid and obtrusive manner.

Running a Great Risk. Briggs—Well, old man, I've just spent half a day in writing some verses to Maude Twickenham.

Griggs—That's strange.

Briggs—What is it?

Griggs—Why, I thought you wanted to marry her!—Truth.

Far Away Now. Seedling—I must raise some money somewhere. I owe my landlady for six weeks' board.

Stuart—Can't you stand her off any farther?

Seedling—Great Scott! no; she's distant enough already.—Raymond's Monthly.

Her Idea of Gehenna. Dolly—The wretch! and so he has been proposing to both of us?

Polly—It seems so.

Dolly—I wish we could think of some fearful way to punish him.

Polly—I have an idea.

Dolly—What is it?

Polly—You marry him, love.—Truth.

Loneliness. First Girl—Freddie took a good deal of wine at dinner yesterday.

Second Girl—I noticed it.

First Girl—It went to his head.

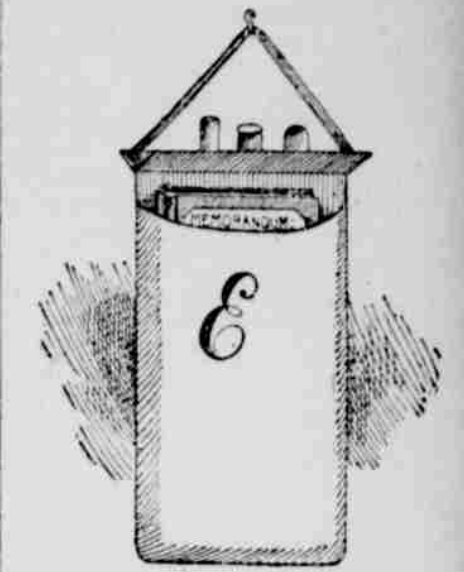
Second Girl—Dear me! What a lonely place for it to go to!—Washington Star.

## USEFUL CHATELAINE.

Those Who Have One Pronounce It Neat and Indispensable.

A most useful treasure to schoolgirls and busy women in these days of impossible pockets is a chataleine described by the *Youth's Companion* as follows:

One-half yard of ribbon two inches broad is hemmed at both ends with a half-inch hem. The two hems are then laid one on the other and the doubled ribbon folded nearly—but not quite—in half, the hems being allowed to project; between the two thicknesses of the hemmed sides a folded chamois or piece of kid is laid; this should be eight inches long and a shade less than two wide. It is folded exactly in



THE NEW CHATELAINE.

half, as if you intended to make a bag four inches long.

This bag is fastened in place by two rows of stitching which run its full length, catching together both folds of the leather and the two folds of the ribbon between which it lies. The rows should each lie about three-eighths of an inch from the edges.

The four selvages are then neatly over-seamed, and when you add a ribbon loop attached by the ends to the back side of the top, your chataleine is finished, though you must still sew or pin to the center of the loop one of the pins which come for hanging curtains to rings—the hook part of this pin is to pass through the belt of the wearer.

This little convenience is used to carry pencils and fountain pen in the stitched pockets of one side, while the case of the other side holds a tiny blank book for memoranda, accounts and so on.

The bag may be made of any dimensions and to carry much heavier burdens. It may be of plain and old ribbon, or made from gray, new ribbons and rich with all the decoration you have time to bestow upon it. The most useful one, suited to any costume and to every-day wear, is made of black watered ribbon, with initials in jet beads. The best kid for the pencil pockets is that cut from the wrists of the long gloves you have cast aside.

### BABY'S EASTER BASKET.

A Charming Little Gift Which Unites Utility and Beauty.

This is a delightful gift to the little one, combining as it does utility and beauty. Take a small basket and gild it. Make small rosettes of pink or blue baby ribbon and sew them around the edge and over the handle as shown



BABY'S EASTER BASKET.

in cut. Fill the basket with white swan's-down cotton and place the prepared eggs, one on either side.

To prepare the eggs make small holes in the ends and expel the contents by blowing. When empty and dry fill with violet powder. Cover the ends with perforated white court-plaster, pasted on neatly, making the perforations with a shoe-punch.

A powder puff tied to the handle adds to the effectiveness. The powder can be dusted on the tender flesh from the egg and "smoothed down" by means of the puff.

### Assist the Unfortunate.

While ignorance and debased habits multiply paupers, the great trouble is that the unfortunate victims are not helped to stand and walk, but are too often struck down. The poor, the week, the ignorant, should receive a better protection from society than those who are able to help themselves. When through pressure of poverty men commit crime, society, if from no higher motive than self-preservation, should remove the pressure; the cry for bread must be satisfied, if prisons are to be done away with.

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